

Youth Resource Connections

*Published monthly by the
U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Youth Services
200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20210 (202) 693-3036,
http://www.doleta.gov/youth_services/*

Volume 5, Number 10

October 31, 2005

Headlines

Department of Labor (DOL) Launches a "Pathways to Employment" Initiative Expanding Employment Services for Hurricane Survivors. The U.S. Department of Labor announced a new "Pathways to Employment" initiative to help evacuees and other survivors of the recent hurricanes find employment and training opportunities. "Pathways to Employment" provides targeted assistance to people based on individual needs through the nationwide network of 3,500 One-Stop Career Centers located across the country. To view the press release, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/eta/eta20051850.htm>.

Department of Labor (DOL) provides On-Line Job Bank for Hurricane Survivors. The Hurricane Recovery Job Connection is a service that connects workers impacted by the Gulf Coast hurricanes with employers who want to hire them. It will also support the hiring associated with critical clean-up efforts in impacted areas. For more information, go to: <http://www.jobsearch.org/katrinajobs>.

The Department of Labor's (DOL's) Employment and Training Administration Launches a Website with Resources for Hurricane Recovery. "Hurricane Recovery Services" is a new website under the American Service Locator. It provides resources to recovery assistance workers with a range of employment and disaster relief services. Fact Sheets and Resources for the impacted states are now available on: <http://www.servicelocator.org/hurricaneservices/>.

Job Corps Announces Available Slots for Youth Affected by Hurricane Katrina. Job Corps has identified 4,000 slots nationally that can be used to absorb some of the program-eligible youth displaced from their communities. Job Corps is a no-cost education and vocational training program administered by the Department of Labor that works with young people ages 16 through 24. For more information, visit: <http://jobcorps.doleta.gov/katrina.htm>.

YouthBuild Opens its Doors to Young Adults Displaced by Hurricane Katrina. YouthBuild sites in 13 states have made slots available for 200 young adults who have been displaced by Hurricane Katrina. In YouthBuild, low-income young people ages 16-24 work toward their GED or high school diploma while learning job skills by building affordable housing for homeless and low-income people in their community. Displaced young adults from Katrina seeking academic and vocational training and other support services may call toll-free 877-631-0272 or email katrina@youthbuild.org to learn more about opportunities with YouthBuild.

Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao Participates in the First White House Conference on Helping America's Youth. Secretary Chao moderated a panel entitled "Connecting with Community Locally" at the first White House Conference on Helping America's Youth. The conference was hosted by First Lady Laura Bush at Howard University in Washington, D.C., October 27th. The Conference promoted public awareness of the various problems facing at-risk youth in our Nation. For additional information, visit:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/firstlady/helping-youth.html>.

Workforce3One offers Podcast, a New On-Line Resource. Department of Labor's Workforce³One recorded its first podcast with Lisa Matrondola, Lead Disability Program Navigator from the state of Massachusetts. The podcast discusses how the workforce system has improved employment outcomes for people with disabilities through the development of partnerships, leveraged funding, and outreach with employers. This is the first of several podcasts that will be featured on Workforce3One. To view, visit: www.workforce3one.org.

Assistant Secretary of Labor for the Office of Disability Employment Policy (ODEP) Kicks Off Disability Mentoring Day. W. Roy Grizzard, Assistant Secretary Of Labor for ODEP, officially kicked off the 7th annual Disability Mentoring Day (DMD), Wednesday October 19th. This year's DMD was held in partnership with the American Association of People with Disabilities (AAPD). The day gave students and recent graduates with disabilities an opportunity to spend the day with a professional working in a field of interest to them. For more information on Mentoring Youth with Disabilities, visit: <http://www.dol.gov/odep/pubs/fact/cultivate.htm>.

Secretary of Labor Elaine Chao Announces an Award of more than \$3.7 Million to Train Transportation Industry Workers. Secretary Chao announced two grants totaling more than \$3.7 million to help address workforce shortages in the transportation industry as part of the President's High Growth Job Training Initiative. The grants were awarded to Community Transportation Development Center (CTDC) near Washington, D.C., and Atlanta-based United Parcel Service of America (UPS). For further information on this initiative, visit: www.doleta.gov/BRG/JobTrainInitiative/.

Department of Labor (DOL) Awards \$125 Million in Competition for the President's Community-Based Job Training Grants. On October 19th, DOL awarded \$125 million to 70 community colleges competing for the President's Community-Based Job Training Grants. As part of the national response to Hurricane Katrina, the department gave preference to competitive applications from Gulf Coast and Southeast colleges whose programs will be critical to rebuilding the regional economy. For more information on this initiative, visit: <http://www.doleta.gov/business/Community-BasedJobTrainingGrants.cfm>.

Funding Opportunities

Captain Planet Foundation Accepts Applications for Environmental Project Grants. The Captain Planet Foundation funds hands-on environmental projects to encourage youth around the world to work individually and collectively to solve environmental problems in their neighborhoods and communities. Schools and non-profits organizations are eligible to apply. Maximum amount of award is \$2,500. To obtain an application, visit:

http://www.captainplanetfdn.org/aboutUs.html#policies_grant_guidelines.

Deadline: December 31.

Dollar General Supports Programs that Contribute to the Advancement of Literacy and Basic Education. Dollar General's community grants program provides financial support to non-profit organizations, located within the stores' 31 state market area, which are committed to the advancement of youth literacy initiatives and address the challenge of drop out prevention.

Maximum amount of the award is \$2,500. For additional information, visit:

<http://www.dollargeneral.com/community/communityinvestments.aspx>.

Deadline: December 5.

Youth Venture Foundation Funds Dream It, Do It Program. Youth Venture provides seed money grants up to \$1,000 for new youth-created, youth-led, sustainable ventures that benefit the community. Youth ages 12-20 who want to start a new ongoing environmental club or organization can get guidance on how to plan, organize, and launch their venture, along with funds for start-up expenses. For additional information, visit: <http://www.youthventure.org/>.

No Deadline.

Opportunities for Youth, Young Adults, and Teachers

The Sloan Consortium Announces Tuition-Free Online Education for Youth Affected by Hurricane Katrina. The Sloan Consortium, an international association of colleges and universities, is offering students whose studies have been interrupted by Hurricane Katrina an opportunity to continue their education tuition-free. For more information, visit:

<http://www.sloansemester.org/>.

Publications

AdvoCasey (Foundation magazine). AdvoCasey is a policy magazine published by the Casey Foundation to highlight issues that affect the lives of children and families in the United States. AdvoCasey seeks to document programs and strategies that work for kids and families through in-depth feature stories and essays that combine hard data and human insight. To access the magazine, visit: <http://www.aecf.org/publications/browse.php?filter=12>.

America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being 2005. "America's Children: Key National Indicators of Well-Being 2005" is produced by the Federal Interagency Forum on Child and Family Statistics, an organization committed to enhance and improve data on children and families. The report features data about youth and families and measures the changing population and environmental context in which children are living. To access the report, visit:

<http://www.childstats.gov/pubs.asp#ac2005>.

100 Best Communities for Young People. The Alliance for Youth today announced the winners of a first-ever, national competition to identify 100 Best Communities for Young People. The winning communities -- ranging from small towns to urban neighborhoods across America -- are being celebrated for their commitment to provide healthy, safe and caring environments for young people. A complete list of the winning communities can be found at:

<http://www.americaspromise.org>.

Pathways to College Access and Success. A report released by the U.S. Department of Education examines the practices and policies of these important credit-based programs. Experts from the Community College Research Center analyze the ways in which credit-based transition programs can help lower- and middle-achieving students prepare for college. The authors also offer recommendations for practitioners, policymakers, and researchers. To view the report:

<http://ccrc.tc.columbia.edu/Publication.asp?UID=340>.

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Technical Assistance Update for October 2005

Reading to Achieve: A Governor's Guide to Adolescent Literacy. The National Governors Association (NGA) released a new guide-- *Reading to Achieve: A Governor's Guide to Adolescent Literacy* – which “lays out the literacy crisis facing America in the 21st Century. Additionally, it highlights several successful state-based programs that have helped governors in their efforts to improve reading achievement, raise high school graduation rates, increase the value of the high school diploma, and close the ever-widening achievement gap.” The guide is available at: <http://www.nga.org/Files/pdf/0510GOVGUIDELITERACY.PDF>.

Websites

Connect for Kids Website gives parents, grandparents, guardians, educators, advocates, policymakers, elected officials and others the tools and information they need to improve the lives of children, youth and families. The Connect for Kids online publication covers more than 30 topics ranging from arts to youth development, foster care to adoption, and welfare reform to oral health. For additional information, visit: <http://www.connectforkids.org/>.

My future is a website targeted to high school students and provides information on financial aid, scholarships and careers, getting a job, and managing money. For additional information, visit: <http://www.myfuture.com/>.

Careers and Colleges lists scholarships, loan, and college opportunities. For additional information, visit: <http://www.careersandcolleges.com/>.

Calendar of Events

November 10-13. Seattle, WA. Coalition for Juvenile Justice, Equal Justice for Youth. Equal Justice: Innovating for the Future will focus on examples of innovation, as well as system and policy improvement and reform, designed to eliminate bias and disparities in the treatment of youth in the juvenile justice system. Contact: (202) 467-0864 ext. 120, www.cvent.com (click “RSVP for Event;” code is 73NEUQS4RDG).

November 14-15. Baltimore, MD. “It’s My Life” Conference, sponsored by Casey Family Programs, focuses on a youth-centered framework designed to guide transition services for young people who “age out” of foster care and other substitute care. For additional information visit: <http://www.casey.org/Resources/Projects/ItsMyLife/>.

November 15. Albany, NY. New York State Youth Gangs Summit will bring local and national experts, community members and service providers to explore research on practices of gang prevention and intervention. For more information contact Christine Roberts at (518) 473-8735, or email: Christine.Roberts@ocfs.ny.us.

November 16-18. Orlando, FL. Florida Alcohol and Drug Abuse Association. Florida Prevention Partnership Statewide Prevention Conference hosts this event for youth and adults involved in alcohol, tobacco and other drug prevention. This year’s conference will feature a Youth Summit where youth will take part in a high energy, innovative, hands-on learning experience. Contact: (850) 878-2106, www.fadaa.org.

November 16-19. Chicago, IL. Healthy Teen Network. Leading the Charge: Making a Difference in the Lives of Teens and Young Families looks to identify strategies for involving parents in the decisions of their teen’s health. Contact: (202) 547-8814, www.healthyteennetwork.org.

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November 17-18. Indianapolis, IN. 2005 Kids Count Conference, sponsored by the Indiana Youth Institute, features workshops led by nationally known instructors and networking opportunities geared for Indiana youth workers. For more information, visit: http://www.iyi.org/trainings_conferences/kidscount.asp.

November 20-22. New York, NY. Partnership for After School Education. Shaping Our Future In Out of School Time (OST) conference will look at developments in managing; researching and/or evaluating; collaborating with and/or funding; or serving as intermediaries in OST programs. Contact: (212) 571-2664, www.pasesetter.com.

NOTICE:

The Office of Youth Services is interested in hearing about new and innovative approaches which bring employers, educators and workforce systems professionals together to serve our communities' youth. If you would like to share projects or programs in your area please e-mail your information to the Office of Youth Services at youth.services@dol.gov.

Thank you.

Youth Resource Connections (YRC). The Department of Labor (DOL), Employment and Training Administration (ETA) does not take responsibility for non endorsed DOL/ETA resources included in the YRC.

We welcome your input. Please let us know how these updates might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have comments contact the: Office of Youth Services at (202) 693-3030 or e-mail youth.services@dol.gov.

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